

Message

From: Packard, Elise [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=6D4AD4C6ABB24F54A2C8C16FA17BA0FD-PACKARD, EL]
Sent: 1/26/2021 6:47:16 PM
To: Moumbleaux, Joan [moumbleaux.joan@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Tuesday Musings

I love Anne of Green Gables – red hair and orphan – totally see it (though I didn't before you pointed it out).

Thanks!

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From: Moumbleaux, Joan <moumbleaux.joan@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 1:23 PM
To: Packard, Elise <Packard.Elise@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Tuesday Musings

Elise, I have to say, I reacted in the same way to The Queen's Gambit. As I watched, I kept thinking that it seemed like a dark and modern take on Anne of Green Gables. With a quick internet search, I saw that may folks also saw the parallels. Everything old is new again!

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From: Packard, Elise <Packard.Elise@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 1:04 PM
To: OGC ALL USERS <OGC_ALL_USERS@epa.gov>; OGC RCs and DRCs <OGC_RCs_and_DRCs@epa.gov>
Subject: Tuesday Musings

Happy Tuesday all,

First musings of the new Administration.

This Week

I wanted to start by welcoming our new OGC folk, Melissa Hoffer is the Principal Deputy General Counsel, and, by virtue of that, is Acting General Counsel. Dimple Chaudhary is the Deputy General Counsel for Nationwide Resource Protection Programs. Their bios were included in the e-mail from the Chief of Staff introducing them to you last Thursday. We are also anticipating the arrival of one more Deputy General Counsel next week. We are still determining who will specialize in what area, so you may see any one of them for a while in your meetings. If you need to be in touch with them, Monique Patrick is supporting Melissa and Lila Razor is supporting Dimple, and you should continue to e-mail OGC Immediate Office Support to set up

meetings. Jim and I are excited to welcome our new team and are looking forward to an active period as everyone begins to implement the Biden agenda and learn about the Federal government, EPA and OGC in particular.

In further news, our former General Counsel, Avi Garbow had returned to EPA's Office of the Administrator on a short-term basis to help facilitate the transition. So you may find him back in some of your meetings!

For those of you who have not had a chance to listen, I commend to you President Biden's address to career employees. He talked about appreciating government core values of humility, trust, collegiality, diversity and competence, many of the same underlying principles of the OGC core values. He also said that "America is defined, in my view, by a single word, possibilities." For those of you who may remember my possibilities sign from the days when we were actually in the office, I particularly loved this one. I start each day with the question "who am I as a possibility today?" If you haven't had a chance to see it you can find it at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=4bZqMdkoFAE&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR1BMMQVKftzLU5d1mb04sWgCU1xVdle2tga_Tk1FOrgkWcjCCkOXRHZTvw#dialog

In case you haven't had a chance to look, President Biden has rescinded both Executive Order 13950, *Combating Race and Sex Stereotyping*, and the Executive Order establishing a new Schedule F. There are two new Executive Orders in these areas: [Executive Order on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government](#) and [Executive Order on Protecting the Federal Workforce](#) that we will be working to achieve in the coming months and I recommend reading. I greatly appreciate the consistent messages on the importance and value of the federal career employees.

As the Chief of Staff mentioned, there is also a new Executive Order on addressing COVID in the Federal workspace <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/20/executive-order-protecting-the-federal-workforce-and-requiring-mask-wearing/> and a recent OMB memo with more guidance for agencies <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/M-21-15.pdf>. We are beginning to work across the agency to address that guidance— more to come. In a nutshell though it encourages telework, requires masks and sets a 25% limit on building occupancy when there is high community prevalence or transmission, although there are exceptions.

A reminder that tomorrow at noon the agency will honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. via a [Teams Live Event](#). Our own Lilian Dorka, Director of the External Civil Rights Office will be on a panel discussing the current state of Civil Rights and its path forward. I invite you all to join!

Musings

I have to say that for the first time in COVID my family and I actually dove into Netflix series watching. With our son, we started Queen's Gambit – which is a little depressing for me (I really enjoy musicals and other "happy" pieces), but well done and interesting (Elliott and Bryan loved it). Bryan said "but it's about female empowerment" I said I prefer the empowerment without tranquilizers, but I do like it when she beats people at chess! Then Bryan and I started watching Bridgerton – much more my speed so far. Pretty costumes, strong characters and nothing too dismal yet. It was actually quite lovely to sit still and lose ourselves in television.

Have a great day.

Elise

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